

University College News

Sacred Heart University

Fall 2005 Volume II, Issue 1

Articulation Agreements Expand Opportunities Beyond SHU

Sacred Heart University's mission statement says that "a community of teachers and scholars, Sacred Heart University exists for the pursuit of truth. It joins with other colleges and universities in the task of expanding human knowledge and deepening human understanding." University College has been responding to this directly and for the benefit of part-time adult students, not only at SHU.

Articulation agreements between the business schools at Sacred Heart University and Norwalk and Housatonic Community Colleges have recently been reevaluated and

updated to the advantage of students looking to continue their education, as well as the advisors and administrators involved in the process.



These agreements allow NCC's and HCC's students with an associate degree in a business-related discipline, wishing to pursue their bachelor's degree in the same discipline, to transfer their credits to SHU with

ease. This "seamless" transfer of credits gives students the opportunity to complete their bachelor's in just two years.

Through these agreements, courses at NCC and HCC are outlined and made equivalent to courses at SHU. This eliminates the confusion of transferring credits from one school to another. University College also has the part-time adult student advisors scheduled to be on the NCC and HCC campuses for meetings with students.

In order for students to complete the degree in two years, they will be enrolled in the...

...agreements continued on page 3...

UC Upcoming Events

October 31- December 22, 2005
AHEAD Term 2

November 6, 2005
Alpha Sigma Lambda Inductions

January 9- March 6, 2006
AHEAD Term 3

January 31- March 21, 2006
Series 7 Prep Course
Tuesdays 6-9 pm
Register Now!
Contact:
Mary Lou DeRosa
derosam@sacredheart.edu
(203) 396-8321

March 2006
2006 Hesburgh Lecture

New Scholarship Opportunities for Part-Time Students

New resources are constantly being made available to Sacred Heart University's part-time students. One hindrance preventing many adult students from continuing their education is the financial burden. It often seems that most financial assistance, specifically in the form of scholarships, is aimed towards full-time undergraduate students. However, new opportunities for scholarships are being made available to Sacred Heart University's part-time adult students.

University College has put together a reference guide filled with scholarship opportunities. These scholarships range from a Talbot's Women's Scholarship to ones from the National Federation for the Blind.

Scholarships offer students, who have met the individual requirements, money towards their education. Some amounts are listed, while others are dependant on the applications received.

Each scholarship listed in this reference guide has a descrip-

tion...

...scholarships continued on page 4...



Student Perspective: Thanks to SHU

I am a Registered Nurse trained in London. I am also a Nurse Manager in an Intensive Care Unit. Many years ago, the nursing education in England was structured so that upon completion of nursing studies, you were awarded a diploma. Therefore, when I made the decision to return to school, I knew that as an adult learner I would be faced with many challenges. I knew that it would be a long and difficult journey, and it was very important to choose the right school. After visiting a few colleges and universities, I decided on Sacred Heart University. I liked the size of the campus, and my initial meetings with faculty members made me feel welcome.

At that time I was a single parent with a young son, and I relied heavily on my family for strength and support. I was juggling school with a full-time and a part-time job to make ends meet. Doing this and caring for my son was very difficult at times. SHU allowed me to defer many credits due to life experiences. During my latter years the independent study courses were such a help.

When I began at SHU, I started taking credits for a BSN in Nursing,

but I kept aching to do something my heart desired more. Since I was already in nursing management and I was hungry for everything in leadership, I could not believe my good fortune to discover that SHU offered a degree in leadership. I did not hesitate; I switched my major from nursing to leadership.

I tell my staff everyday that we have to make decisions and at the particular moment we do, we never know if they are the right or wrong decisions. That is something that is determined by the outcome. I know now that I made the right decision to change my major.

During my time at SHU, one of my younger sisters suffered a stroke at the age of 30. She had recently graduated from college and was about to enter law school. She was in a coma for a week and was not expected to live. She lived! She subsequently had brain surgery, and later that same year she entered law school. My sister has since graduated from law school. What a day of celebration! I have since written a book about this phase of my life entitled, *My Sister, My Friend, My Miracle*.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the years I spent at SHU. On May 15, 2005, I graduated magna cum laude

with a BA in Leadership Studies. I could not have achieved this without the assistance of the SHU faculty and my family. I plan to start graduate school, where I will pursue a master's degree in Leadership.

Now, as a proud graduate of SHU, I wish to express my sincerest thanks to the faculty and staff who made this all possible. ■

Sylvia M. Barchue contributed this article to the University College News.

...Offerings from page 4

...the CFE will be launching a new certificate program in the Fall of 2006. The Certified Financial Planning program prepares students for the CFP exam. Classes for the five-course curriculum meet once a week for 14 months. The five-part curriculum begins with Financial Planning Process and Insurance, continues with Investment Planning, Income Tax Planning, Retirement Planning and Employee Benefits, and concludes with Estate Planning. Programs will be offered to students in the Fall of 2006.

Anyone seeking more information on the programs in the CFE is encouraged to visit our website at <http://www.sacredheart.edu/cfe.cfm>. ■



Above, instructor Christopher York, teaches the Organizational Management course at the Stamford Campus. At right, students listen attentively to the lecture.

Photo Views....



Letter to UC

To my 2004/2005 SHU professors:

Now that graduation is behind me, I want to thank you all for helping me rekindle my excitement about my academic accomplishments and seek a rigorous path of learning in my future.

I spent a single busy and exhausting year completing my degree at Sacred Heart. There were a couple of AHEAD terms that tested my stamina, my patience, and my ability to absorb enormous doses of information and still excel academically.

I procrastinated finishing my degree for nearly 20 years after leaving my first undergraduate experience in a haze of emotional turmoil and a daunting sense of personal failure. Despite my innate sense of curiosity, this unfinished degree was (until now) the most shaming skeleton in my closet. Thanks to you, that monumental pile of bones is now put to rest and the haunting of my past failures has been transformed into a renewed drive to accomplish more, to learn more, and to pursue a distinguished academic future.

Thank you for your dedication and passion for the subjects in your teaching repertoires. Thank you for making a year of learning seem like merely a momentary "Aha!" While I might have whined just a bit to my husband about the seemingly endless commute between Stamford, Fairfield and Danbury, I really do feel a loss in not having SHU as a driving force in my daily life. I'll be starting graduate school in the Fall, but I will spend this Summer wishing I had just one more—or three more—classes to finish up at Sacred Heart. And, I will spend many more years regarding SHU as my partner in one of my greatest personal accomplishments.

My mortar board is off to you.
With grateful respect,

Julie Peck
SHU Class of 2005 ■

Example to All

Jana Novakova came to the United States in 1998; she was just nineteen years old from the Czech Republic. She left behind her parents, two grandmothers, a brother, some fish and her brother's dog.

Jana wanted to learn English. She had been required to study Russian while in school and chose German as an elective. Convinced that the best way to learn English was to come to the US, she joined a program for au pairs and arrived in Louisiana for one year.

Her search for a strong ESL program brought her to Norwalk Community College, which she calls the bridge to her student life at Sacred Heart University. An inspiring ESL teacher at the college encouraged her to use her new language and continue her education. She earned

her associate's degree in Finance and Banking in 2003 with a 4.0 G.P.A.. Her pursuit of a challenging business program brought her to SHU.

Jana credits caring teachers, who gave her extra time, advice and a lot of help, along with the University's Learning Center (where her papers were proof-read) for advancing her academics.

Jana has a boundless energy. As a student, she worked part time in the NCC library, taught swimming lessons, joined the ballroom dancing club, and was a

volunteer teacher in Westport.

Jana has a triple major at Sacred Heart in International Business, Finance, and Business Administration/Management. In addition to her studies, she is an au pair, works in the library, and works out or swims every day. ■



...Agreements from page 1

...AHEAD program. The AHEAD program is composed of five-seven-and-a-half week terms each year, for two years. The classes are accelerated to make it easier for adults to complete the course work and balance their life outside of school. AHEAD classes are held either once a week for four hours and 15 minutes, or twice a week for two hours and 15 minutes. Students can take six credits each term (the equivalent of two courses), allowing a total of 30 credits per academic year.

Currently at NCC, the Business Cohort leads students to a Bachelor

of Science degree in Business Administration. At HCC, however, there are three programs. These programs lead to a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, Business Management or Finance. HCC students interested in learning more should contact Kellie Barrett at barrettk@sacredheart.edu or 203-371-7831.

In the future, UC hopes to expand the articulation agreements to other Connecticut community colleges to expand the realm of their service to a larger community of adult students. ■

New Course Offerings at the Center for Financial Education

The Center for Financial Education (CFE) at Sacred Heart University's Stamford campus has grown rapidly since its launch last semester.

The Series 7 Prep Course, as the inaugural program for the CFE, has brought in students from major business firms in Stamford. Included in these are employees of UBS, GE Asset Management, Smith Barney and the Bank of America. Due to the demands for this program, Series 7 Prep Course offerings are currently scheduled through the Fall of 2006. All those interested are asked to contact Mary Lou DeRosa at 203-396-8321, or derosam@sacredheart.edu.

SHU has recently partnered with Cheetah Learning to offer a new

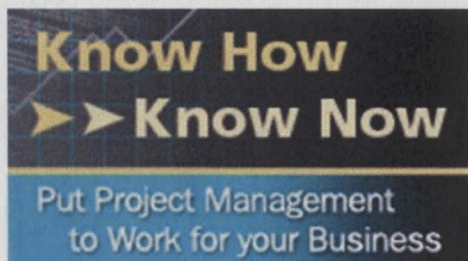


online program in which students can earn a Master's Certificate in Project Management. Designed for professionals in the IT, Marketing, Operations, and Sales and Engineering fields, this program offers the convenience of the online learning format. Comprised of seven courses, the Project Management program can be completed in 40 weeks. However, students have two years to complete the course

work. The courses vary in length from four weeks to ten weeks. The curriculum includes the following seven courses: PM Strength Builder, Communicating Through Conflict, Project Negotiation Skills, Cheetah Project Management and MS Project, PM Toolbox, Project Management Demonstration Project and Project Management Career Builder. All those interested in learning more, contact Nancy Sidoti at 203-371-7832, or sidotin@sacredheart.edu.

In addition...

...offerings continued on page 2...



Congratulations to the University College students who made the Dean's List in the Spring 2005 Semester!
Your hard work and achievements are commended!

...Scholarships from page 1

...of who may apply. Requirements range from: faculty recommendation, age requirement, minimum credit completion, grade point average requirements, to being a mother of at least age 17 who is enrolled in a specific degree program. These scholarships grant financial assistance opportunities to a very wide range of individuals; therefore, not all scholarships have the same requirements. Information on deadlines

and Internet links are also available in these guides.

Students interested in more information on these opportunities are encouraged to contact their academic advisors in University College. The reference guide is available to UC students in the Stamford, Derby and Fairfield University College office locations, as well as on the Blackboard organization site. ■

University College Staff

Nancy Sidoti

Dean, University College

Nicole Atkins

Administrative Secretary, Stamford

Kellie Barrett

Administrative Secretary

Ellen Corey

Admissions Coordinator

Hilda Corey

Executive Secretary

Mary Lou DeRosa

Director, UC Initiatives

Jan Godo

Executive Secretary

Denise Griffin

Coordinator, Valley Sites

Dolores Jennings

Office Manager, Stamford

Barbara Stevens

Administrative Secretary, Derby

Jennifer Blake

Newsletter Editor-in-Chief

Layout Design

University College

Administration Building, 1st Floor

Sacred Heart University

5151 Park Avenue

Fairfield, Connecticut 06825-1000

University College Web-Site

<http://uc.sacredheart.edu>